FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 MAY 1985

Israeli-Palestinian Prisoner Exchange

In return for the release of three IDF soldiers by Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-General Command, Israel released 1,150 prisoners comprising 879 security prisoners, 150 detainees transferred from Ansar Camp, and 121 others, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by IDF radio. Some of the "terrorists" were released in Geneva while others were set free in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, according to Jerusalem radio, which noted that those released included Japanese Red Army member Kozo Okamoto and Jibril's nephew. At a news conference broadcast by the radio, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin acknowledged that Israel had paid a heavy price for the release of three Israelis and he warned that if there is any attempt to kidnap Israelis to bargain for the release of other terrorists, he will propose arresting all those who were released as part of deals made to date. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Yithzaq Shamir and Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon called for the release of Jewish underground prisoners, the radio reported. Sharon said it is inconceivable that "abominable assassins" should be released while Jewish underground detainees remain in jail. Jewish settlers in Qiryat Arba' fired shots to disperse Hebron residents who were celebrating the release of the Arab prisoners, according to the radio, and the Israeli authorities in Gaza detained 42 people for causing a violent disturbance while celebrating the prisoners' release. On the Arab side, Damascus radio said the exchange of POW's was between Israel and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), but Baghdad Voice of PLO radio did not mention the PNSF or the PFLP-General Command in its brief report on the exchange.

Lebanon

The Amal movement has given Palestinians in Beirut an ultimatum to cease firing and surrender their weapons on 21 May, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Meanwhile, the Amal movement launched an offensive against the Burj al-Barajinah camp and the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade tightened its control over the approaches to the Sabra-Shatila camps, the radio added. The 6th Brigade had entered Sabra and Shatila on 20 May after fighting between Amal and the Palestinians that caused over 200 casualties, according to the radio.

For the Palestinians, a PLO statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO accused Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad of directly ordering Amal's assault on the Palestinian camps and called on Arab and Islamic leaders to act to make Syria halt the onslaught. The radio subsequently stated that 56 Palestinians were killed or injured by shelling, which also set many buildings on fire including two hospitals.

Iran-Iraq War

Firing will continue on land, at sea, and in the air because of Iran's rejection of and failure to respond to Iraq's initiative for a cease-fire throughout Ramadan and 'Id al-Fitr, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The Iraqi Air Force attacked and hit another "large maritime target" near Khark Island on 20 May, according to a military communique broadcast by the radio.

Saudi Arabia

Before returning to Jeddah, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal described his talks with Iranian leaders as "serious, frank, and positive," SPA reported, and he noted that his Iranian counterpart has accepted an invitation to visit Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, King Fahd expressed gratitude to Syrian President al-Asad over the latter's efforts in securing the release of Saudi Consul to Lebanon Husayn Farrash, Riyadh radio reported. Farrash, who was kidnapped by gunmen in Beirut 16 months ago, arrived in Jeddah on a special Syrian aircraft 20 May, the radio noted. In another development, Fahd received visiting Sudanese Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah, who gave the Saudi king a written message from Sudanese Transitional Military Council Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, SPA reported.

Jordanian-Egyptian Talks

Jordanian King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak began official talks in Cairo 20 May, discussing Middle East developments in order to push peace efforts in the region, Amman radio reported.

Syrian-Libyan Relations

At the end of the General People's Committee's visit to Syria, officials from both sides signed cooperation agreements on planning, science and technology, cultural affairs, and the labor movement, Damascus radio noted. General People's Committee Secretary Muhammad al-Zaruq Rajab was received by President al-Asad, the radio disclosed.

Pakistan

Pakistan has rejected a Soviet protest alleging that 12 Soviet soldiers were killed in an incident near Peshawar last April in which Pakistani Army units participated, Karachi radio reported. Pakistan's view, communicated to the Soviet ambassador, is that the incident was caused by "agent provocateurs" who infiltrated from Afghanistan and began firing on refugees. None of the agent provocateurs were known to the Soviet servicemen, the radio added, and investigations have shown that there were no Soviet military personnel on Pakistani soil.

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Foreign Ministry Denies Human Rights Violations
LD201923 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] A statement from the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

The 1985 session of the Economic Council of the United Nations has begun work at that organization's headquarters in New York. Many vital social and political issues, which have influenced the international community and particularly the developing countries, have been included in the lengthy agenda of the session and the increasing grave social and economic situations in the world demand that every effort should be made toward solving the aforementioned issues.

Imperialist, hegemonist, and reactionary circles resort to every foul means to divert attention from the main issues and drag the council toward discussing a series of irrelevant, and even nonexistent, questions. These schemes aim to discredit the socialist community and other progressive countries and national liberation movements within the framework of worldwide war. They do not lose any opportunity in utilizing international forums for staging all sorts of groundless allegations against the progressive forces and countries.

One such effort concerns human rights in the DRA which will, in all probability, be discussed during the assessment of a part of a report No. 41/AST/ of the session of the UN commission.

Pursuing a well-organized war of lies and slanders concerning the so-called violation of human rights in Afghanistan, the recognized enemies of the people of Afghanistan are able, by twisting the rules and working methods of the commission and by putting a lot of pressure on its members in an unlawful manner, to obtain approval for an illegal resolution on the 40th session of the commission, which is a very dangerous precedence in its history.

Firstly, it should be said that no violation of human rights, worthy of any sort of investigation or report, has taken place in Afghanistan. The reality of the situation is witness to the fact that the fundamental human rights and the freedom of the people have been guaranteed in the law as well as in practice. In accordance with the spirit and substance of the DRA Basic Principles, in order to create revolutionary legality and others, has [no subject as heard] renewed and adjusted in the process of joining some important international documents regarding human rights such as the international convention on civil and political rights; the international convention on socioeconomic and cultural rights; the international convention on eliminating all forms of racial prejudice; the international convention on the punishment of the crime of apartheid; and other national documents and regulations, in order to bring them in line with relevant international documents. [sentence as heard]

The DRA statement on general amnesty, which is still in force, is a form of legal security for the thousands of our deceived compatriots who have returned to the homeland and have resumed their peaceful, new, and beneficial lives. Other revolutionary measures have maintained the rights of life, health, education, work, the right to protection by law, the right of participation in civil matters, and others for the people. The only violations of fundamental human rights have been by the criminal counterrevolutionary bands which they commit with their inhuman savage actions supported militarily and financially by their imperialist, hegemonist, and reactionary masters.

Secondly, the decision about the selection of the so-called special reporter which, by trampling on the regulations, the method and accepted form of the work of the commission and despite the protests of the DRA delegation and other representative delegations, has been in fact imposed on this commission which is an open violation of Paragraph 7, Article 2 of the UN Charter.

Thirdly, the appointment of a notorious person who began his youth in a volunteer service as a high-ranking officer of the forces of Hitlerite Nazism and after the fall of the Reich became a member of the revanchist groups of neo-Nazis such as the Organization of (?Sadist) Germans through which he received the European award of (?Karl), exposed the true intentions and the real essence of the forces behind this decision.

The neofascist activities of these people have been praised by the most reactionary forces of the FRG. His extremely militarist and antisocialist stand regarding questions, which have been before the Austrian Parliament, in particular about the state and neutrality treaty of Austria, assured the organizers of the illegal anti-Afghan resolution that his report will be used as a rubber stamp for the incorrect and unsubstantiated theories of the conditions of human rights in Afghanistan.

Fourthly, for those people with broad vision, this report has painted a clear picture of the lack of sincerity, fabrication and great distortion of the facts that is concocted by the feeling of stubborn reaction.

The predetermined essence of this so-called report is more obviously than ever before due to its hasty preparation which was written in a few days and hastily handed over to the anti-Afghan Western press and has been officially discussed in this session which was prepared for it beforehand.

However, concerning the credibility of the sources on the basis of which this so-called report has been authored, it is sufficient to say only that a handful of fugitive murderers and self-sold servants stationed in Pakistan have been interviewed to bear witness to the violation of human rights in Afghanistan.

In preparing this ludicrous investigation, the role of the imperialist, hegemonist, and reactionary guardians of the criminal counterrevolutionaries has been influential.

The international community has learned the truth and realities of the revolution in Afghanistan to an extent that will prevent it becoming snared by such traps.

The DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the basis of its categoric stand, rejects this so-called report about Afghanistan and once again announces that it shall not grant any sort of legal, moral or other validity to such valueless nonsense.

New Curfew, Work Hours Announced for Ramadan

LD192012 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 May 85

[Text] In a statement, the Kabul garrison command says that since our faithful people, in addition to prayers during the month of Ramadan, will engage in the recitation of the Holy Koran in the mosques of Kabul city and suburbs, restrictions on night movements from this evening to the end of the month of Ramadan will apply during the hours 2300-0330.

According to a report by the State Committee for Work and Social Security of the DRA Council of Ministers, the official work period at departments and establishments during the month of Ramadan will be 6 hours. Work at state establishments will being at 0700 and end at 1300, including on Thursdays.

The Ministries of Education and Training, Higher and Vocational Education and other educational institutions will determine the beginning and end of school hours at educational establishments.

The beginning and end of work at production establishments and other projects will be organized by the relevant ministries and establishments in light of the 6-hour work-day.

Mujahidin Kill 2 Government Troop Commanders

GF210426 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1700 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] According to a report received from a mujahidin source, our mujahidin brothers in one operation killed two commanders who defected from the ranks of Islam and joined the mercenary government of Soviet puppets. They are Fazl Haq and Hamid Khan. Fazl Haq was killed on 30 April when our mujahidin attacked a column of mercenary government troops. Hamid Khan, the other traitor, was killed on 2 April by the gunfire of our Muslim mujahidin brothers.

According to the same source, a while ago Fazl Haq was commanding a mujahidin guerrilla group in Takhar Province. However, 3 years ago he defected to the occupationist forces and their mercenaries in Takhar Province. Such is the fate of the mercenaries and traitors to Islam.

Another report from Ghazni Province indicates a while ago our mujahidin attacked the Soviet and government troops in that province's capital. In the bitter fight that resulted, the enemy sustained heavy casualties and material losses.

In retaliation, the enemy soldiers killed two local teachers, Nasir Ahmad and Ahmad Jan, and wounded another. Similarly, in Nowghi two civilians were killed by Soviet and mercenary soldiers. They also looted some houses and destroyed others.

Another report indicates that a few days ago a group of government troops and the infidel communist personnel of the enemy attacked the Niazi tribe.

As a result they faced a strong attack by the mujahidin brothers. In the first attack seven infidels were killed and others were hit by rocket fire. Most of their war material was destroyed under fire. The enemies of Islam tasted the fruits of their treason.

Gandhi Leaves Delhi for Visit to Soviet Union

BK210402 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister left New Delhi this morning for Moscow on a 6-day visit to the Soviet Union with the hope for a deeper and stronger friendship with that country. Mr Rajiv Gandhi is accompanied by a high-level delegation besides his wife and children. A large number of people, including central ministers, the lieutenant governor and mayor of Delhi and members of Parliament gave him an affectionate send off at the airport. Before boarding the Air India special plane, Annapurna, Mr Gandhi told newsmen that he is looking forward to much more economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. He said India has very good relations with that country which have stood the test of time.

During his visit he hopes to renew the ties and strengthen the friendship with the Soviet Union and the general secretary, Mr Gorbachev.

Replying to questions on the economic relations with the Soviet Union, the prime minister said India's own resources are limited and there are constraints and [word indistinct]. A correspondent asked Mr Gandhi's views on the support expressed by Mr Gorbachev to the proposed international conference on the Indian Ocean. The prime minister said India stands for declaring the ocean as a total zone of peace.

Referring to Punjab, Mr Gandhi said the government is prepared to hold political discussions on anything within the constitutional framework, but violence will not be tolerated at all. The government will take very strong measures against anyone who advocates and commits violence. Mr Gandhi said at the same time it will make sure that every citizen is protected.

The All India Radio special correspondent, Radhanath Chaturvedi, accompanying the prime minister says that a red carpet welcome awaits Mr Rajiv Gandhi on his arrival at the Soviet capital. Today's engagements include talks between the delegations of the two countries soon after the prime minister's arrival in Moscow and a banquet in the evening. Our correspondent reports that during his two days' stay in Moscow, Mr Rajiv Gandhi will also receive tomorrow on his mother's behalf the Lenin Peace Prize awarded to Mrs Indira Gandhi posthumously.

Visit Itinerary Announced

BK201248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, leaves tomorrow morning on a 6-day visit to the Soviet Union. He will be accompanied by a high-level delegation. It includes the finance and commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh; the minister of state for power, Mr Arun Nehru; the chairman of the Police Planning Committee, Mr G. Parthasarathy; the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari; and other senior advisers.

The All India Radio special correspondent, Radhanath Chaturvedi, accompanying the prime minister, says besides talks the highlight of the prime minister's stay is the public meeting at the Hall of Columns on Wednesday [22 May]. Another important engagement is the meeting with the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, which will be held without aides. After a 2-day stay in Moscow, Mr Gandhi will visit Minsk, capital of Byelorussia, and Frunze, capital of the Soviet Republic of Kirgiz. He returns home on Sunday.

Commentary on Ties With USSR

BK201446 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 20 May 85

[Commentary By P. Chandrasekharan]

[Text] India-Soviet friendship has remained over the years stable, developing, and mutually beneficial. The time tested friendship between the two countries is expected to strengthen further as a result of the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi's, visit to the Soviet Union beginning from Tuesday [21 May].

The 5-day visit of the prime minister assumes special significance this time, even though it is a part of the traditional visits between leaders of these two countries. The significance is in that this visit will be the first occasion for Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the new young leaders of India and the Soviet Union, to have an in-depth review of bilateral relations and exchange views on the regional and international situation. There is a wide range of issues which are of vital interest to both India and the Soviet Union. However, according to indications, discussions on the question of enlarged bilateral economic cooperation is high on the cards.

Since both the countries have already developed a framework of durable bilateral ties, possibilities of further improvement can be viewed as bright. There is, thus, a strong possibility of both the leaders exploring new avenues of mutually advantageous cooperation. It is expected that India and the Soviet Union will sign a long-term plan of economic cooperation up to 2000 AD. The several sectors of cooperation to be covered will include power generation, coal sector, oil, and machine building. Fresh Soviet credits to India of a substantial nature are also expected. In the light of the consistent growth in industrial (?ties) in recent years, the two leaders are expected to focus their attention in identifying new areas, including transfer of technology. India-Soviet trade is also poised for a pickup. A target of 46,000 million rupees has been fixed for India-Soviet trade for the current year. This shows a 20 percent increase over the previous year. There has been a 25 percent increase in Indian exports to the Soviet Union.

Major international problems are also expected to come up during the exchange of views between Mr Gandhi and Mr Gorbachev in Moscow this week.

To the Indian prime minister, the occasion will provide an opportunity to apprise the Soviet leader about the 6-nation summit call for disarmament at its meeting in New Delhi. Global security and peace and of world-wide concern today. Even a small positive response from the superpowers to the 6-nation summit call will go a long way to reduce the prevailing fear of a nuclear holocaust.

Making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace is a matter of vital interest to India and the littoral states. The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, in an interview to the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA last week, said that his country wants the Indian Ocean to be made as a zone of peace free from tensions and conflicts. This is a welcome statement. In all probability, developments in South Asia, Iran-Iraq war, Afghanistan issue will also figure in the talks between the two leaders.

In the world beset with conflicts and confrontations, India-Soviet friendship stands out as a strong bulwark of peace. The present visit of Mr Rajiv Gandhi to the Soviet Union will help to further strengthen the already existing friendly ties and also open up the opportunities for the leaders of the two countries to know and understand each other better.

Soviet Reportage

For Soviet and Delhi reports on Rajiv Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union, including his meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, please see the South Asia section of the 21 May Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Lok Sabha Passes Antiterrorist Bill 20 May

BK201647 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The Lok Sabha has passed the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Bill with some official amendments. The law minister, Mr A.K. Sen, substantially accepted two amendments sought to be moved by Mr Madhu Dandavate, Janata. The changes have been incorporated in the bill. One clause, as amended, allows the center to exercise any power of the state government after consulting the concerned state. The other amendment omits reference to song, ballad, verse, words, book, pamphlet, paper, writing, tape, video cassette, drawing, painting, representation from the section which defines disruptive activity.

To allay the fears expressed by members about the possibility of the powers being misused, the relevant clause was amended. It now makes clear that the powers will be exercised by officers of the central government not lower than a joint secretary or a state government official of the rank of district magistrate.

Earlier, Mr Sen and the home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, assured the house that provisions of the bill will not be used against political movements. They asserted that the bill has been brought forward to curb terrorism only and no other activity even remotely. Mr Sen said that the bill is intended to effectively deal with terrorism in any part of the country. He made it clear that the new measure is not aimed at the Sikh community. He said Sikhs have always been a part of our history, politics, and society and will always remain so.

In response to the demand from many members for extending the provisions to cover Jammu and Kashmir also, Mr Sen said the govenrment intends to do so after getting the approval of the state legislature. He explained under the constitutional provision, law and order is the exclusive jurisdiction of the Jammu and Kashmir legislature. Some members had suggested that the validity of the bill should be for a longer period than 2 years, as provided. The law minister said the government does not want to have the extraordinary powers for longer period than required.

In his intervention, the home minister denied that the center has attempted to usurp the powers of the state governments through the bill. He complimented the people of Delhi and other northern states for not reacting violently to terrorism. He was also happy these activities have been condemned by a large section of the Sikh community. This will help isolate the terrorists. Mr Chavan agreed with some members that the police machinery needs to be reoriented. The center has asked the state governments to raise new battalions of police force consisting of people from different communities to meet the situation in riot-prone areas.

During the discussion, members from all sections of the house expressed total condemnation of terrorism and agreed that the government should deal with it sternly. They said terrorism has no place in a democratic setup. Opposition members, however, felt that the existing laws can be used effectively against terrorism. They regretted that the government has not so far been able to use the powers it already has. They also wanted the center to get the concurrence of states while enforcing the provisions of the bill.

The bill provides for the death penalty for persons committing terrorist activities which result in a killing. It also proposes imprisonment ranging from 5 years to life for terrorist and disruptive activities. Under the provisions of the bill, designated courts will be set up to try the offenders.

New Plot for Assassinations, Bombings Uncovered

HK201340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1312 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 20 (AFP) — Indian intelligence agencies have uncovered a suspected Sikh separatist plot to kill top police and administration officials in Punjab and New Delhi, police sources said today.

Separatists had chosen a senior police officer in Bhatinda, Punjab, as their first target, the sources quoted an intelligence report as saying. The plot covering Punjab and New Delhi had been uncovered Saturday.

Meanwhile, intelligence sources said another "simultaneous bombings" plot in selected districts in Punjab and Delhi had been uncovered. At least 84 people died in such an attack in Delhi and three states from May 10-11.

The new bombings plot had been urged by a 25-year-old Sikh to avenge communal violence in which Hindus attacked Sikhs last November, after the killing of Premier Indira Gandhi by suspected Sikh assassins, the intelligence sources said.

Some conspirators were already believed to be in New Delhi, intelligence bureau sources said.

Another plot had been hatched by a militant from Amritsar, Punjab, who had told militants that he had many homemade time bombs for use against top Punjab administration officials, Home Ministry sources said. Intelligence agencies have found clues that the May 10-11 bomb attacks were plotted in a Sikh temple in Ludhiana, Punjab, sources said. A police alert Saturday said a wanted Sikh militant had also drafted a plan to "hit" the armed escorts of a night bus service in Punjab, the police sources said. The guards were introduced to foil any attempts by Sikh separatists to kill civilians in the buses.

Security around senior police and administration officers has been tightened following threats against them. Temples have been raided in the last 24 hours in a search for the perpetrators of the May 10-11 transistor bomb attacks, sources said.

Meanwhile, police said they found a huge cache of dynamite in the Punjab capital of Chandigarh, three days before a crucial meeting of the main Sikh political party opens in Amritsar, domestic news agencies said.

Police discovered 48 kilograms (105 pounds) of dynamite and a large number of police and Army uniforms in a house in Chandigarh, UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) and PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) agencies said. The raid followed interrogration of a Sikh arrested earlier, Balram Singh, the agencies quoted police as saying. Police said Mr. Singh was wanted in 18 cases of murders, robberies and bomb explosions, the agencies reported.

Preparations were underway today in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar for the first formal meeting Thursday of a newly-constituted committee of leaders of the Akali Dal Party.

The meeting in the Punjab city of the major Sikh party is expected to discuss Sikh demands for more autonomy for the state, where Sikhs are the largest community, analysts said. It would also probably discuss the May 10-11 bomb blasts.

The federal government has introduced tough anti-terrorist bills to Parliament following the bombings.

The meeting is to be presided over by Joginder Singh, new leader of the party and father of the late militant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. Joginder Singh seized power in the Akali Dal on May 1 after saying that the chiefs of the party factions had resigned, authorising him to take any step for preserving the unity of the Sikh faith.

Former party chief Harchand Singh Longowal first denied that he had offered his resignation, but last week said he was resigning from the post. No reason was given.

Analysts see Joginder Singh, a farmer and previously small-time local leader, as a miltant new force that Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) government will have to deal with to solve the Sikh issue.

Joginder Singh yesterday toured parts of Punjab canvassing support for his new committee, and said he was in favour of Sikhs carrying arms to Akal Takht inside the Golden Temple in Amritsar, PTI said. Akal Takht means throne of the immortal. The Golden Temple was badly damaged during an Army assault in June last year on militants who had fortified the temple.

The building was repaired by the government, but the Sikh temple committee has decided to demolish it and build it again, without government help.

Local media today quoted Joginder Singh as saying the carrying of arms was a Sikh religious right. The local administration had banned carrying of arms inside the Golden Temple, in an apparent attempt not to allow the complex to again become a sanctuary for the militants.

Longowal Not To Attend Akali Dal Meeting
BK201621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The Akali Dal leader, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has said that he and the other two leaders — Mr Parkash Singh Badal, and Mr G.S. Tohra — will not attend the ad hoc committee meeting of the united Akali Dal convened by Mr Joginder Singh on Thursday at Amritsar. Sant Longowal was talking to newsmen at Bhavanigarh in Sangrur District today.

Movement Along Border With Pakistan Restricted
BK201617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, night movement of the people along the Indo-Pakistan border in the Jammu region has been restricted. This is to prevent any activities of extremists and disruptive elements.

Ahmedabad, Baroda 'Peaceful'; 1 Stabbed to Death
BK201627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation in Ahmedabad remained peaceful today and no untoward incident was reported during curfew relaxation. In most of the curfew-bound areas shops, banks and government officies reopened after 11 days. Curfew has been further relaxed for tomorrow. It will be relaxed in the entire walled city and Saraspur for 9 hours from 0900 in the morning.

In Gomtipur and Odolf, it will be relaxed for 4 hours from 1400 in the afternoon, while there will be a 12-hour relaxation in Narayanpura and Kagdari areas from 0700 in the morning.

The situation in Baroda is under control. However, there were some incidents of stone throwing. Indefinite curfew was imposed in the Viramgram town from 1100 this morning following some incidents of stabbing in which one person was killed and three injured.

Karachi Rejects Soviet Protest Over Incident

BK201742 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Pakistan has communicated to the Soviet ambassador its reply to the Soviet protest regarding the incident in (Neshani) near Peshawar. Pakistan's reply stated that the incident had been caused by agent provocateurs from Afghanistan who infiltrated the area and resorted to firing on refugees in Pakistan. The explosives in possession of the agents detonated during the skirmish, in which all the agents, along with a number of refugees, lost their lives. None of the agent provocateurs were known to be Soviet servicemen and investigations have shown that there were no Soviet servicemen on Pakistan's soil. The Soviet protest conveyed to the Pakistan ambassador in Moscow on the 8th of this month alleged that 12 Soviet servicemen had been killed in (Neshani) incident and that Pakistan Army units had participated in the incident. The Soviets had also asked for the return of Soviet servicemen who were on Pakistani soil.

In rejecting the Soviet protest, Pakistan's reply pointed out that unsubstantiated (? press) reports had been made the basis of Soviet allegation and concluded by reiterating Pakistan's desire for maintenance and improvement of bilateral relations with the Soviet Union.

USSR Envoy Remarks

GF201140 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 15 May 85 p 1

[By the special correspondent]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 14 May: The Soviet Union has protested to Pakistan about the incident in which 12 Soviet and 7 Afghan soldiers were killed. It has demanded that the bodies of the soldiers be returned. Speaking at a reception given to bid him farewell, Mr Smirnov, the outgoing Soviet ambassador in Pakistan, accused Pakistan of conducting an undeclared war which is indirectly aimed at the Soviet Union. He said that he had handed a protest note to the government, saying that he had the evidence as well as the names of those who deliberately killed the soldiers. He said that he had just returned from a meeting with President Ziaul Haq.

Minister of State on Atomic Weapons Policy

GF201354 Lahore JANG in Urdu 12 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt] Islamabad (JANG correspondent) — The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, has said that Pakistan has neither built atomic weapons nor plans to do so. He said that our foreign affairs minister has said our atomic program is peaceful. However, we will not sign any nonproliferation agreement unless India signs one. This statement was made by Mr Zain Noorani in his informal talks with the *JANG* correspondent when Mr Zain Noorani's attention was drawn to a statement by Indian Ambassador D. Sharma, in which Sharma said that Pakistan had the capability of making two atomic bombs a year.

Bulgarian Trade Delegation Arrives 20 May

BK201200 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Bulgaria is to import from Pakistan large quantities of cotton and rice in addition to textiles and leather goods. This was stated by the Bulgarian deputy minister for foreign trade, Mr Georgi Vutev, who arrived in Islamabad this morning at the head of a trade delegation. He said a barter protocol for the next year would also be signed during his visit to Pakistan.

Under the current year's barter protocol, the two countries traded goods worth about 90 million each way. Major exports to Bulgaria included cotton, cotton made-ups, light engineering goods, and neptha; while imports from Bulgaria included fertilizer, machinery, and spare parts.

The Bulgarian minister said he would also discuss the possibility of setting up joint ventures during his talks with the Pakistani officials. He said Bulgaria can assist Pakistan in the setting up of electronics and machine building industries. Mr Georgi Vutev said his country is interested in expanding economic and trade relations with Pakistan.

Afghan Mujahidin Kill 20 Soviet-Karmal Soldiers

BK201535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin killed 20 Soviet-Karmal soldiers in two guerrilla operations in Qandahar and Herat Provinces recently. The mujahidin reportedly attacked a post set up to guard large depots of oil in the (Chehaldina) area of Qandahar City, killing eight Soviet-Karmal soldiers and destroying an oil tanker. In another operation, the mujahidin attacked a military post in Chakab subdivision and killed more than 12 Soviet-Karmal soldiers.

More on Afghan Mujahidin Activity

BK210811 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the Mujahidin have intensified their activities in Qandahar. During the first 10 days of this month eight major operations were launched in the city, including the bombing of Qandahar airport, in which one MIG-21 aircraft was destroyed on the runway. An oil depot was also destroyed. At least 10 Soviet-Karmal troops were either killed or injured in the airport attack.

Another report says the Mujahidin, in their second attack on the Qandahar cantonment, inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet-Karmal troops.

BANGLADESH

Spokesman Regrets Indian Press Report on Bhutan

BK201712 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Bangladesh has reiterated its firm belief in the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. A Foreign Office spokesman said this in Dhaka today while commenting on an Indian newspaper report alleging that Bangladesh is provoking Bhutan to review the India-Bhutanese treaty of 1949. The spokesman has described the report as baseless, mischievous and imaginary in nature. He said that the question of Bangladesh offering unsolicited advice to Bhutan, as alleged by the newspaper, did not arise.

The spokesman said that the publication of such an unfounded and motivated report in an influential Indian daily is very regrettable at a time when the governments of Bangladesh and India are making sincere efforts to further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries.

AFP: 1 Killed in Second Phase of Elections

HK201322 Hong Kong AFP in English 1249 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Dhaka, May 20 (AFP) — One person was killed and at least 50 injured in outbreaks of violence today during the second phase of rural upazila (sub-district) elections, officials and eyewitnesses said.

One person was stabbed to death and at least half a dozen wounded in clashes between groups supporting rival candidates in Gazaria Upazila, about 50 kilometres (31 miles) from here, local officials said.

Eyewitnesses said a bomb blast at a polling centre at a primary school in Munshiganj Upazila, about 60 kilometres (38 miles) from here, left at least three people injured. The eyewitnesses said that the blast caused panic among voters queueing up at the school.

Local people told newsmen that the home-made bomb was planted by "dissidents" opposed to the elections.

Police said at least 10 people were injured in stabbing incidents and clashes between rival groups in Char Kewar Village in Munshiganj. Reinforcements were rushed to the village to help security forces bring the situation under control.

Paramilitary forces were sent to Rampal Village, also in Munshiganj, where seven persons were injured in clashes between rival groups, according to sources in the local administration.

Clashes were also reported in the Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Faridpur, and Sylhet Districts, where at least 30 people were injured.

Local officials at Gazaria said that voting was suspended at least three of the 37 polling stations there.

However, local administration officials in Munshiganj claimed the voting there was "peaceful and disciplined," apart from some attempts to cast false ballots. Elsewhere local election officials reported that voting was brisk.

In Adamjenagar, local people said the turnout for today's elections had been greater than that for the referendum last March on President Hussain Mohammed Ershad's rule.

Today's polling, to elect administrators for 207 of the country's 460 upazilas, was the second and final phase of the elections.

The first phase, to elect administrators for 250 upazilas, was held on Thursday. Administrators were returned unopposed in two upazilas. During the first phase at least six people were killed and over 150 injured.

Voting was suspended in at least 38 upazilas on Thursday following outbreaks of violence. Fresh polls for these upazilas were held today. The rural polls are taking place despite an opposition call to boycott the elections.

Delhi on Election Violence

BK210317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] In Bangladesh, four people were killed and 150 injured in bomb explosions and clashes between rival political groups during the second phase of the local elections. The polling also covered 100 centers where it was suspended on the 16th of this month because of clashes. Six people were killed in violence during the first phase of the polling.

SRI LANKA

Tamils Reportedly Blow Up 'Vital' Bridge

HK201046 Hong Kong AFP in English 1029 GMT 20 May 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Excerpts] Colombo, May 20 (AFP) — Suspected Tamil separatists today blew up a key bridge and reportedly killed two policemen, and three wounded Tamils involved in massacring 147 civilians have died, official sources said today.

Police said the extent of damage to Manampitiya bridge, carrying the main road and rail links between Polonnaruwa and the Eastern Province capital of Batticaloa, was not immediately known.

They said two policemen were reportedly killed and another possibly wounded when suspected Tamil separatists blew up the vital bridge in the north central province today. The bridge lies a few miles from the ancient Sinhala capital of Polonnaruwa, 216 kilometers (135 miles) northeast of here.

Mr. Athulathmudali said that 65 Tamil "terrorists" had been killed so far this month and 87 captured.

Mr. Athulathmudali also said the authorities were expecting militant Tamil separatists waging a bloody campaign for an independent state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka to launch another attack in the next few days.

The minister told AFP that he could not disclose whether the security forces were acting on a tip-off in preparing for the new attack, or where the attack was expected. But travellers reaching here reported that the coastal town of Wennapuwa, about 64 kilometres (40 miles) north of Colombo, had barricades up at the police station and other vital points.

President Junius Jayewardene pledged Saturday that the government would not yield to terrorism, and said Parliament would be told what steps were being taken to train more security forces and to buy arms.

Authoritative sources told AFP that Sri Lanka had ordered six Israeli-made gun boats for operating in the northern waters. The militants allegedly use this area to cross from operational bases in southern India, returning after strikes here. One boat used in northern patrols has already proved very successful, the sources said, and four more are due to be delivered.

Bridge Said Intact

HK201440 Hong Kong AFP in English 1430 GMT 20 May 85

[Excerpt] Colombo, May 20 (AFP) — Suspected Tamil separatists today killed two policemen and wounded three others when they blew up a police post near a key bridge, official sources said.

The sources said that the attackers fired automatic weapons at the police guard post, by the Manampitiya bridge near Polonnaruwa in the North Central Province, which was manned by 10 policemen.

Official sources said the bridge, carrying the main road and rail links between Polonnaruwa and the Eastern Province capital of Batticaloa, was intact. It was earlier reported to have been blown up.

According to official figures, in the last month 32 servicemen have been killed in attacks by Tamil separatists, who are fighting for autonomy for the north and east of Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile authorities have begun an inquiry into allegations by the Batticaloa Citizens Committee and some parents that police commandos massacred 41 Tamils on the east coast on Friday, according to a spokesman for the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the leading Tamil political party.

The Citizens Committee has protested to the coordinating officer of the Eastern Province that the 41 were rounded up, killed and then buried by the police Special Task Force (STF), TULF said.

According to TULF sources the inquiry is being held by a deputy inspector-general of police. Police were not immediately available for comment.

5 Police Commandos Killed by Land Mine

HK210458 Hong Kong AFP in English 0430 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 21 (AFP) — Five police commandos died and seven others were wounded when a vehicle in which they were travelling hit a mine laid by Tamil separatists in Eastern Province, government sources said here today.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the incident occurred yesterday at Kiran, about 16 kilometres (10 miles) from Valachchenai on the east coast.

He said that police commandos — members of the police special task force — opened fire during the incident and it was not immediately known whether any separatists were killed.

With these latest deaths, the official death toll among the security and Armed Forces since April 21 in incidents linked with the Tamil separatist campaign rose to 37.

Police sources said that the convoy of the special task force, which is maintaining security in the Eastern Province, was on its way to conduct an operation when a vehicle hit the mine.

There was speculation here that the mine may have been laid by the same group of Tamil militants which attacked a police guard post at the Manampitiya bridge yesterday, killing two policemen and wounding three others. The scene of the land mine blast is about 60 kilometres (40 miles) east of the Manampitiya bridge.

Iraqi Ramadan Cease-Fire Plan 'farcical'

GF181947 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 May 85

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Text] In a new exhibitionist drama, Saddam al-Tikriti, the tyrant of Baghdad, yesterday announced his acceptance of what he called a cease-fire. The background for this step, in light of the current situation in Iraq, is in the following analysis.

In the current Iraqi situation and the present stage of the Baghdad regime's rule, one may make the following remarks: First, observers and all those who are concerned with Iraqi affairs unanimously agree that what characterizes the military situation of the ruling regime in Iraq is total impotence and collapse. This diagnosis is not restricted to military action in offensive operations, but encompasses the ability to respond and defend against counteroffensives. Observers attribute this impotent and collapsing situation to the rejection by Iraqi troops of the causes and justifications of this war, the collapse of their morale, the repeated defeats, the large human losses, and finally the continuation of the war for all these months.

If there is need for an indicator of this fact, then we have the best proof in the latest Badr operations. The forces of the Baghdad regime failed in defending themselves despite the fortifications and the defensive positions which they had set up inside Al-Hawr and on land.

Second, if financial and economic sources used to speak in a whispering, hinting manner about the Baghdad regime's financial and economic crisis, then today they are absolutely frank when speaking about this matter. Western financial and economic sources have said that Iraq's foreign debts so far total $40 billion. Iraq's hard currency reserve, however, from before the war, is nearly $40 billion, and has been totally consumed by the fires of Saddam's Qadisiyyah [7th century Arab victory over Persians]. From this premise, these sources foretell a suffocating economic crisis this year for the Baghdad rulers, which will not only intensify merely as a result of the arms deals and the feeding of the Ba'thist war machine, but will also intensify, to a large extent, from the need to be able to purchase foodstuffs and necessary commodities for Iraq.

Hence, even if the big military development does not take place, and the expected Islamic offensive does not come, the state of war itself is sufficient to topple Saddam through economic collapse, particularly as the petrodollar supply stores have repeatedly and often complained of the burdens of financing Saddam's Qadisiyyah.

Third, despite the proven internal policies of the Baghdad regime in repression and terrorism, the recent period has witnessed internal events which — if they develop into other forms — will add new burdens to the burdens of the Baghdad rulers, who have been weighed down by their 55-month aggression against the Islamic Republic. These developments include the state of popular complaint and rejection of the policies and existence of the Baghdad regime, and the repercussions of the large losses of human life in a number of Iraqi cities, as witnessed in Mawsil following the Badr operations.

Fourth is the appearance of the phenomenon of conflict over power between trends and various axes within the party and the state, amid numerous reports on the existence of an agreement that Saddam's presence has become unwelcome.

In view of these remarks, Saddam's insistence on and his desperate attempts to cease hostilities is not a strange phenomenon, but rather the attempts of a party that seeks to continue to exist. Saddam does not find, except in a cease-fire, a means for this continued existence. From this came his farcical resolution yesterday to cease hostilities, which will have neither significance nor use, if there is no response to the Islamic Republic's conditions, foremost among which is the everlasting departure of Saddam.

Musavi on 'Creeping Conspiracy' in Administration

LD201901 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 20 IRNA — In his speech to an audience at a one-day convention of members of Islamic associations in government organizations at the Ferdowski auditorium of Tehran University today Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said that the Islamic associations have been one principal target of the enemies of the Islamic revolution since the associations are committed to fighting corruptive practices in the administration, in addition to their other goals.

Musavi said ever since the creation of the Islamic associations of employees in government organizations the counterrevolution, somewhat aided by the conservative middle-of-the-road wing, did their best to disrepute the Islamic associations and thereby diminish their true stature to a virtual nonentity so that the road would be paved for the return to the administrative system in the country of the past corruption.

The prime minister lauded the performance of the Islamic associations as highly conducive to the ideals of the Islamic revolution and reminded that once and if the people active in the associations should retire from the political and administrative arena, their places would not for a minute remain vacant but rather occupied by the counterrevolutionary people.

A nine-point resolution issued at the end of the convention called for the formulation of an independent act for the operation of the Islamic association in government organizations. It also said that the hypocritically self-righteous people (MKO) as well as the lay 'liberals' and other counterrevolutionary groups are trying to undermine the revolution by gradually corrupting the administrative system with a view to disappointing the people and blunting their revolutionary zest, and called for a serious measure against what it called a 'creeping conspiracy' for crippling the administration.

Khamene'i Comments on Role of Universities

LD201843 Tehran IRNA in English 1820 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — Ayatollah Montazeri's representative in Tabriz University, Hojjat Ol-Eslam Gharavi, along with the members of the students' Islamic Association, Sunday met and conferred with President Khamene'i who is head of the cultural revolution high council.

Speaking to the visitors, the president reiterated that the university should be a place for training those individuals in administrative and technical knowledge necessary for the various sectors of the country.

He added that the leftist and rightist groups had concentrated their anti-revolutionary activities in the universities, but after the cultural revolution in 1980 these groups were all expelled and now the universities are places for preparing future generations for administering the affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

President, Leaders Attend Officers' Graduation

LD201243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 May 85

[Excerpt] Our correspondent reports that the graduation ceremonies for the fifth officers training course of the central cadres of the training college of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran was held this morning at 22 Bahman Garrison in the presence of Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and head of the Supreme Defense Council, the chief of the joint staff, the minister of interior, the imam's representative at the gendarmerie, the head of the politico-ideological department of the Gendarmerie, a group of military and security officials, groups of combatants of the revolution, and families of those martyred from the Gendarmerie force.

Further Reportage on Saudi Minister's Visit

More on Sa'ud al-Faysal's Meetings

GF201336 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Brother President 'Ali Khamene'i received on 19 May Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign affairs minister, who is on an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed the greetings and congratulations of King Fahd to the brother president of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the advent of the blessed month of Ramadan and emphasized the importance of expanding relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia. He said: There are many ties between the two countries which can increase cooperation between them.

During the meeting brother President Khamene'i expressed his thanks for and satisfaction with the growing cooperation between Iran and Saudi Arabia. President Khamene'i referred to the plots of the powers of international arrogance in spreading fear of the Islamic Revolution among area countries, saying: We say to all neighboring states and to all Muslim countries in the area that we wish to live with them in unity, love, and friendship.

President Khamene'i said during his meeting with Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal: We believe that the problems of the Muslim world must be solved by making use of the vast resources of the Muslim countries and by the unity of the Muslim countries. Brother Khamane'i added: It is certain that the Zionist question and the Palestinian question are today among the basic issues facing the Muslim world. We attach great importance to them.

Brother Khamene'i stressed that the increase in the presence of U.S. and British forces in the Persian Gulf area is, from our point of view, a basic issue which the Muslim world must discuss. Moreover, he said, there are other issues that exist among the area countries that should be discussed and solved by the cooperation and sincerity of these countries.

At the end of the meeting the Saudi foreign minister presented to Brother Khamene'i a recitation of the entire Koran prepared in a very magnificent manner.

As part of Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal's meetings with senior officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, he met on 19 May with Majlis Speaker brother Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who said: We believe ourselves to be truly one nation [ummah] with the Arab brothers and Muslims of the area. We believe that a united ummah under the banner of Islam can work for the goals of Islam. He said: With the triumph of Islam in Iran we expected to be welcomed by the Muslim countries. In fact, we have been and continue to be prepared to harness the resources accumulated by the shah in Iran to use them against our enemy and your enemy and the common enemy of all Muslims, Israel.

The Majlis speaker continued: We believe that as much as the atheist imperialist forces have agreed on protecting Israel they are equally committed to the policy of not allowing the establishment of friendly relations between us and between the Arab brothers and all other Muslims.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: We believe that the war begun by the Iraqi Government is to serve such a purpose and to drive a wedge between us and you. We also believe that their talk about peace and a cease-fire is intended to maintain a continued source of conflict on our border with Iraq, and to have a situation here similar to that which exists around Palestine.

The Majlis speaker added: Certainly we are more disgruntled by the war than you are, and we want to end it. However, we want to end the war in a manner whereby after the war we will live in reassurance of a life full of tranquility and good relations with other Muslim states in the area.

Saudi Arabian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Sa'ud al-Faysal also met with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi on 19 May. During the meeting the Saudi foreign minister called for the development of bilateral relations and the establishment of close relations between the two countries, saying that such a matter is important and essential for the religion.

Musavi referred to the distorted image of the Islamic Revolution abroad and explained the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly toward neighboring states. He also explained the concept of the export of revolution. He expressed regret for the wrong terms used in relation to these clear principles.

The prime minister then referred to the imposed war and said: We have not coveted and will not covet Iraqi territory. However, we aspire — for the sake of safeguarding security in the region — to apply Islamic justice. This is a matter on which we insist. It will not be achieved except by punishing the aggressor.

More on Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meeting

LD202223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The Saudi foreign minister has had a meeting with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker. In that meeting, while expressing his pleasure at his trip to Iran he emphasized the need to expand relations between the two countries.

In some remarks addressed to the Saudi foreign minister, the Majlis speaker said: We expect you to pay sufficient attention to our remarks and our thoughts, and to discuss them with the rest of the officials of your country and the GCC countries. We truly regard ourselves as part of one ummah with the Arab and Muslim brothers of the region; and we think that this unitary ummah can be united under the banner of Islamic work for Islamic goals. We expected that with the victory of Islam in Iran we would be welcomed by the Muslim countries. We are truly ready to use the capabilities which the shah provided in Iran against Israel which is the common enemy of you and us and all the Muslims. We believe that the Iraqi Government started the war precisely to create distance between you and us; and we also believe that if they talk of peace and cease-fire, it is so that a bone of contention may remain in our borders with Iraq. Most certainly, we hate this war more than you do, and we would like the war to finish. However, we wish to bring this war to an end in such a way that later we can live with Muslim countries in the region with peace of mind and in complete sincerity and friendship.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Concerning the war, as we said before, there is no other way except for the Ba'thist party which is responsible for this war to be punished and for the legitimate rights of the Iranian people to be achieved; we do not accept any other solution. We hope that together — namely the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic countries of the region — by eliminating the source of tension in the region can create a comfortable existence for the Muslims of the region.

Al-Faysal Comments on Talks, Leaves

LD201035 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and his accompanying delegation left Tehran early afternoon Monday. The Saudi foreign minister was seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati as well as ambassadors and charge d'affaires of Islamic countries in Iran.

Velayati expressed the hope that the continuation of these visits between the two countries would give suitable and practical results in the future.

Speaking prior to his departure, the Saudi foreign minister said that during his visit it became clear that there were many extensive grounds for the cooperation of the two countries. He added that situation in the region was precisely and extensively discussed. The situation in the region is presently complicated and problems are numerous, he said. He said he could not give details of his Tehran talks, but stressed that the talks with Iranian officials had been serious, explicit and positive. He noted that such contacts were very important for making positions clear, especially in certain cases.

The Saudi foreign minister expressed satisfaction over the result of the talks and announced that an invitation has been extended to Dr. Velayati to visit Saudi Arabia.

During his two-day stay in Tehran, the Saudi foreign minister held talks with Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, President 'Ali Khamene'i, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and his counterpart Velayati.

Daily Editorial on Visit

GF190906 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 May 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* wrote in its editorial about the Saudi foreign minister's visit to Iran. Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Tehran yesterday. He was received by Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Sa'ud al-Faysal said the purpose of his visit is to discuss issues relating to the region, bilateral relations, and to exchange views. He described his visit as a very good opportunity for the two sides to explore each other's positions.

Regarding the Islamic resistance in Lebanon, he said: This resistance forced the Zionist forces for the first time in nearly 37 years to withdraw from Islamic territory.

Regarding the war issue and the Saddamist regime [word indistinct], the Saudi foreign minister said that as a responsible person, he knows well the regime ruling in Baghdad has not abided by any international norm or law and it has discarded all international norms and laws. Continuing aggression and violating laws is permissible in the logic of this regime.

In this respect, we will remind people of the crimes this regime has committed and is always committing. They are: attacks on residential areas and cities; demolishing mosques and hospitals; the use of chemical weapons; threatening airlines; creating disturbances; threatening shipping lines in the Persian Gulf; and

killing Muslim clergy in Iraq. Can the words, pledges, and commitments of such a criminal and executioner regime be trusted?

The Saudi foreign minister's visit at this time has a special significance. It is obvious that the Saudi foreign minister will explore official Iranian views and closely study the facts. Probably the Saudi minister's visit at this time will correct and adjust Saudi Arabia's stand on the aggressive Saddamist war against Iran and he will study the issues relating to the region if the Islamic Republic of Iran's conditions to end the war are being fulfilled within an Iraqi Government without Saddam. This point is being seriously studied by Saudi decisionmakers and the rest of the regimes which support Saddam in his war against Iran.

The region's countries hesitate because they fear that the fall of Saddam's regime will not bring about their safety and security. However, the Iranian Islamic Government has repeatedly announced that no threat will be posed to the region if the Saddamist regime falls. This what the Saudi minister can sense during his visit to Iran and his talks with officials.

Tehran Arabic Comments on Explosions in Riyadh

GF202026 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 20 May 85

[From "Behind the News Program"]

[Text] Saudi Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Tehran on Saturday, 18 May, on an official visit. Between 1900 and 1930 on the same evening, that is on Saturday, two explosions took place within a short span of each other on a street in the Saudi capital, Riyadh. Although the two explosions came as a surprise to observers who were following up the visit of the Saudi prince to Tehran, it was not difficult to guess which side was behind the two explosions. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's presence in Tehran was enough to explain the two explosions and clarify the identity of those who were responsible for them.

After the announcement of the two explosions, we did not doubt for 1 minute that Iraqi intelligence was responsible. Its goal was to abort the visit of the Saudi foreign minister and hinder his mission to Tehran which concerned the situation in the region and bilateral relations.

If it was the intention of Iraqi intelligence to give hints as to the identity of the responsible side through telephone calls made to some international news agencies by claiming that the Islamic Jihad organization was responsible for those explosions, then these telephone calls did not give enough hints, but rather created more doubts as to the responsible side. If the cells of this organization are operating inside Saudi Arabia — and according to the unknown caller the operation was carried out internally — observers wonder about the unsuccessful timing and about the reasons why these cells had kept quite until Saturday, the day of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Tehran. Would it not have been better for the responsible side — if it was not an intelligence activity — to have carried out this operation at a different time? Thus, the blame is thrown at the Baghdad regime's intelligence, because the Iraqi regime would be the first beneficiary in destabilizing the development of relations among the region's countries aimed at their welfare and benefitting the security and safety of the region.

Despite the small size of this operation, it is a dangerous indication of the nature of the Iraqi regime and its evil trend toward the region's countries, even toward those that it falsely claims to be close to and have good relations with. This affirms the credibility of the Islamic stance which regards the Baghdad regime as a source of concern and tension in the region, which should be eliminated in order to restore security and peace.

GDR's Wyschofsky Meets Agriculture Minister

LD201643 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — The German Democratic Republic (GDR) minister for chemical industries, Gunther Wyschofsky, currently in Iran, met with Iranian Agriculture Minister 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, Monday.

"Considering our farmers efforts," Zali said, "Iran is able to reach self-sufficiency in this field."

The two sides also announced their readiness to cooperate in various agricultural fields including agricultural industries, agricultural machineries production, irrigation, fishing and exchange of agricultural experts.

Wyschofsky is heading a 30-man delegation which arrived here 18 May.

Montazeri Meets With SAIRI Spokesman

LD181519 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 may 85

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Unit, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sayyed Mohammad Baqir Hakim, the spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), met with the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday and presented him with a detailed report of the Islamic movement of Iraq and the self-sacrifices and selflessness of Iraqi mojahedin inside Iraq and on the battlefronts of the imposed war; and of existing difficulties.

Then Grand Ayatollah Montazeri stated: I am aware of internal conditions in Iraq and the pressures and repression imposed on the down-trodden people of Iraq; and of the struggles of the devoted young people of Iraq against the satan of the age and the blows directed at it. Supporting this oppressed Muslim nation and these devoted militant young people is perforce the duty of every Muslim. He stressed: It is the duty of the immigrant Iraqi ulema who are members of SAIRI to increase and strengthen as much as they can their ties with the strugglers and mojahedin inside Iraq, and to place at their disposal in any way possible, material and moral capabilities in order that the Islamic movement may continue until final victory. They should know that the best path to the salvation of the oppressed and Muslim of Iraq lies in recognizing and organizing the Iraqi mojahed forces,

raising Islamic resistance and strengthening the movement within Iraq.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also called on the relevant people in charge to remove any obstacles which may lie in the path of Iraqi struggling and mojahed brethren in reaching their goals, and to cooperate in every way towards this, and to bind themselves to this duty.

According to this report, Mr Morteza Nabavi, the minister of post, telegraph and telephone, accompanied by the deputies of this ministry, also met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday, and submitted a report on the progress made by the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone since the revolution, to him. In this meeting, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, while expressing appreciation for those working in this ministry, remarked on the existing difficulties associated with sending published material abroad through the post, and expressed the hope that the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone can come to some arrangement whereby the country's published material and Islamic books may be sent abroad without any problems and reach those who support the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Joint Staff Issues Communique No 2,109

LD201623 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — At least 60 Iraqi soldiers were killed in battlefronts in Bakhtaran and Ilam over Sunday according to military communique No 2109 issued here today. The communique published by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that Iran's Muslim combatants maintained their positions throughout the battlefronts in the western and southern fronts throughout Sunday.

In battlefronts near Piranshahr and Sar Dasht the Iranian artillery forces responded to enemy fire checking their movements and wrecking parts of their hardware.

Elsewhere in battlefields in Bakhtaran and Ilam the Iranian forces wrecked one army truck killing its personnel, one howitzer, and pounded four observation posts, and four enemy bunkers.

Iran's Islamic defenders opened artillery fire upon the enemy positions near Jofeyr on Sunday preventing the Iraqi troops from their road engineering operations while elsewhere in Nahr-e Anbar they spotted one enemy patrol unit and repelled it from the area. In other operations on Sunday the Iranian forces set ablaze four bunkers of the enemy troops across the Arvand River.

250 Iraqis 'Forced' To Emigrate to Iran

GF201043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] The regime oppressing [words indistinct] crimes and aggression against the oppressed Iraqi Muslim people forced a group of inhabitants of the holy cities of Karnla', Al-Kaduyiyah, and Samarra', and cities in the north of this country to emigrate to Islamic Iran over the borders.

Two hundred and fifty Iraqis forces to emigrate arrived in the Islamic Republic of Iran early this morning. Iranian officials received them and gave them accommodation.

Tehran Comments on UN Failure to Condemn Iraq

LD181641 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1110 GMT 18 May 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] During the past week, the Islamic Republic of Iran's representative to the UN sent a memoradum to the UN secretary general of the organization again pointing out the recent acts of the Iraqi regime in connection with the usage of poisonous gases in the regions of Fakkeh and Sardasht by the Iraqi regime. The memorandum explicitly stressed the need for action to charge the Iraqi regime with violating the Geneva Convention of 1925.

The memorandum also requested a delegation to be dispatched to the regions in order to examine the use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime. Despite the sincere efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with the submission of irrefutable documents to international organizations and the reports issued by a UN-dispatched delegation, on two separate occasions the Security Council has condemned the deployment of chemical weapons without any mention of the Iraqi regime.

In the first declaration of the Security Council, only the use of chemical weapons is condemned, without reference to any specific country. However, the continued revelation and submission of irrefutable documents by the Islamic Republic of Iran, forced the Security Council to condemn the deployment of chemical weapons against Iranian troops in its latest declaration, while avoiding any clear reference to the regime in Iraq.

The flagrant violation of the Geneva Convention of 1925 by the Iraqi aggressors, together with the lack of decisive reaction by the international organizations and the powerful countries encourages other governments to resort to these unlawful weapons during the 1980's.

Our experience with Iraq shows that governments can now use poisonous gases to achieve their iniquitous demands without any genuine or decisive prohibition by the international organizations and the great powers, while superficially adhering to the Geneva Convention of 1925.

This bitter reality is extended to other cases such as bombings and rocketing of non-military sites, making targets of commercial vessels, creating insecurity along air routes and threatening civilian aircraft. The Iraqi regime, during this period, has resorted to odious measures and methods to achieve its iniquitous and aggressive demands, while exploiting the extensive support of global arrogance and the governments of the region, taking note of the motivated silence of the international organizations. Such policies will not in future circumstances and events be limited to the Islamic Republic of Iran and will spread to other states and the present friends of Iraq.

Therefore, it is important that the states bordering the Persian Gulf, while removing their support for the Iraqi regime, should take steps toward the complete destruction of the real source of fire and villainy, and further, should prepare the ground for the establishment of genuine peace and security in the region.

Nevertheless, if these states fail to adopt realistic stands, that will not have the least influence on the steely determination of Islam's combatants to achieve the just demands of the Muslim nation of Iran. This just battle, as ever, will continue, relying on God almighty for the downfall of Saddam.

Radio Iran Reports on Ahvaz Demonstrations

GF210646 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT 20 May 85

[Text] Nationalist sources report that the clashes between the armed agents of the regime and our Arab-speaking compatriots continue in Ahvaz. According to this report, the *ETTELA'AT* of 13 May [words indistinct] that Khuzestan Arabs are gypsies and [words indistinct] their women [words indistinct]. The publication of this article severely angered our Arab-speaking and gypsy compatriots in Ahvaz, so much so that last Tuesday they staged a sit-down strike in Ahvaz streets to protest the publication of this contrived article.

The agents of the regime opened fire on them and murdered or wounded some and arrested others. The following day Arab-speaking and gypsy women came into the streets demanding therelease of those arrested. People, who are also fed up, joined them and held a protest meeting. There has been a critical and angry atmosphere in Ahvaz since that day. Unrest is felt especially in the Ahvaz labor pool. The steel workers and other industry workers in Ahvaz are mostly Arab-speaking natives of Khuzestan and claim that the insulting article published in the special edition of *ETTELA'AT* for Khuzestan was done on the order of the regime officials and was an act of animosity toward Arab-speaking Iranians of Khuzestan.

Afghan Mujahidin Operations in Herat Noted

GF181547 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] In a chain of operations against the joint invading Soviet and government forces, Afghan Mujahidin liberated 12 villages in Herat Province in western Afghanistan. Reports from Afghanistan say that as a result of these operations, which lasted 14 days, Afghan Mujahidin killed 30 troops and wounded tens in attacks on the positions and concentrations of the joint Soviet and government military units in various parts of Herat. Afghan Mujahidin also captured 300 Soviet and Karmal soldiers. A large number of troops fled the battle scenes. The Mujahidin also captured a large amount of arms and equipment.